
Program Memorandum Intermediaries/Carriers

Department of Health and
Human Services (DHHS)
HEALTH CARE FINANCING
ADMINISTRATION (HCFA)

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CHANGE REQUEST 1464

**SUBJECT: Medicare Intermediary Claims Processing Standard Systems Delay of CY 2001
First Quarter Release**

The first CY 2001 quarterly release (2001.1) for the Medicare intermediary claims processing systems, originally scheduled for January 1, 2001, is being delayed and targeted for implementation on January 8, 2001. This delay will allow the intermediaries more time to test the release. **This delay does not impact the carrier and Common Working File (CWF) systems, as they will implement the release on January 1, 2001.**

For Fiscal Intermediary Standard System (FISS) users, FISS will create a utility to hook all claims, with the exception of Home Health PPS Request for Anticipated Payment (RAP), Hospice Notice of Election, and Religious Non-Medical Healthcare Institute Notice of Election, for dates of service January 1, 2001 through January 7, 2001. Each Arkansas Part A Standard System (APASS) user will create a hook for all claims with the exception of Home Health PPS RAP and Hospice Notice of Election for dates of service January 1, 2001 through January 7, 2001. The hooked claims are to be released on January 8, 2001, with the implementation of the first quarter release.

MSP for Claims in Suspend

The CWF system added two new MSP auxiliary file 'SP' edits that are effective with the January 1, 2001 release. **Both FISS and APASS standard systems will accept and hold these claims in a status location when they are returned from CWF.** Once the standard systems have implemented the release, these claims can be released for processing.

The CWF system has also added new contractor numbers for the MSP auxiliary file that is effective with the January 1, 2001 release.

For FISS users, FISS will not need to make any system changes in relation to the new contractor numbers being implemented by the CWF system on January 1, 2001.

Each APASS user will create a hook to hold claims from January 1, 2001 through January 7, 2001. Once APASS has implemented the release, these claims can be released.

Medicare+Choice Issues

CR 1270, Transmittal A-00-49, and CR 1108, Transmittal A-00-57, have an effective date of October 1, 2000, and an implementation date of January 1, 2001. Due to the delay of the January release for the standard systems, continue to hold these claims through January 7, 2001. Once the standard systems have implemented the release, these claims can be released.

Provider Notification

If you receive calls from providers, inform them that the implementation date simply refers to the date when Medicare systems will be ready to process these claims. Because of the payment floor, an implementation date of January 8, 2001 should not result in any payment delays. Intermediaries do not need to initiate special notices to inform providers about the delay.

The *effective date* for this Program Memorandum (PM) is January 1, 2001.

The *implementation date* for this PM is January 8, 2001.

These instructions should be implemented within your current operating budget.

This PM may be discarded after January 1, 2002.

If you have any questions, contact your standard systems maintenance lead.